

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

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SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 /102 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7781

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS KUWAIT 2095

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PLO, EG, UR

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORT ON ARAFAT'S MEDIATION BETWEEN SOVIETS AND
EGYPTIANS

KUWAIT DAILY AL WATAN OF APRIL 19 REPORTS THAT LOCAL "PALESTINIAN
SOURCES" ASSERT THAT ARAFAT HAS BEEN MEDIATING BETWEEN USSR
AND EGYPT, PURSUANT TO A REQUEST MADE BY PRESIDENT SADAT PRIOR
TO HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON. REPORT IS TO THE EFFECT THAT, IN MEETING
WITH GROMYKO, ARAFAT UNDERTOOK TO TODE DOWN EGYPTIAN PRESS CRITICISM
OF SOVIETS AND GROMYKO PROMISED ARAFAT THAT KREMLIN WOULD RESTUDY
THE QUESTION OF MILITARY SUPPLIES FOR EGYPT IN LIGHT OF ARAFAT'S UNDE
R-
TAKING. REPORT ALSO ALLEGES THAT GROMYKO TOLD ARAFAT THAT, AFTER THE
GROMYKO-FAHMI MEETING IN BULGARIA, GROMYKO WAS ABLE TO GET KREMLIN
APPROVAL FOR RESUMPTION OF SOVIET MILITARY RESUPPLY, BECAUSE EGYPTIAN
PRESS SUDDENLY TONED DOWN CRITICISM, BUT THAT JUST AS "10 VESSELS"
CARRYING SOVIET MILITARY MATERIAL FOR EGYPT WERE PASSING
THROUGH THE MEDITERRANEAN EGYPTIAN PRESS ATTACKS RESUMED, WHICH
CAUSED THE SOVIETS TO RECALL THE SHIPS AND CONCLUDE THAT SADAT
WAS "IN THE LAP" OF THE USG.
MAESTRONE

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Message Attributes

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